

For Immediate Release

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***Funding will allow for the rehabilitation and construction of parks and recreation facilities in urban areas and programs for at-risk youth***

Washington, D.C. Today, Congressman Albio Sires introduced the Urban Revitalization and Livable Communities Act. The bill will provide federal grants to rehabilitate and construct urban parks and recreational areas and to continue investment in health, family and youth programs.

“As a former mayor of West New York, I have seen firsthand the benefits of improving parks and recreational infrastructure,” said Congressman Sires. “These investments in our community help our cities flourish, provide positive activities for our youth, and give our kids and families healthy and safe places to be outside.”

This legislation invests in the health and well-being of urban communities across the nation by creating and improving recreational areas, which promote economic recovery, environmental protection, and increased green spaces. The bill focuses on projects in urban areas that provide more places for physical activity, improve the safety and condition of recreational areas, use environmental friendly products, and are close to public transportation, schools or public housing. These projects directly help revitalize the community and support businesses in the area.

“When we’re proud of where we live, it not only deepens our sense of community and strengthens our neighborhoods, but it also helps boost local businesses in the area,” said Congressman Sires. “In these difficult economic times, these are benefits to our communities that should not be overlooked.”

Twenty-two members of the House of Representatives have joined Congressman Sires as well as the National Recreation and Park Association in supporting this legislation.

“The National Recreation and Park Association supports Rep. Sires’ efforts to comprehensively address the needs of urban communities. His legislation would provide critically needed assistance to youth and families to improve health, gain access to nature and the outdoors, and revitalize America’s urban areas,” said Barbara Tulipane, Executive Director of the National Recreation and Park Association.

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